

~~SECRET-EYES ONLY~~

25 March 1968

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 25 March 1968

The Director noted receipt of a letter from Secretary Rusk requesting a new assessment of Soviet ground forces and assigned action to the DD/I. D/ONE noted that a Memorandum for Holders updating NIE 11-14 is scheduled for April.

DD/I reported that the joint preliminary assessment of the U-2 flight over South China is negative. (See Action 1)

Godfrey advised that the flash point in connection with Panama appears to have been deferred until 1 April, when the Supreme Court meets to determine the constitutionality of the impeachment trial verdict. The Director asked Godfrey to ensure that any storm signals in the Panamanian situation are promptly reported to concerned parties.

The Director concurred in D/ONE's suggestion that Ambassador Bohlen receive a copy of the memorandum on Soviet relations with the Eastern Europeans. (See Action 2)

Carver reported that a session was held Friday with J-3 and J-4 concerning the use of the M-14's and that further efforts on this matter will be required. (See Action 3)

Carver advised that he will be briefing Secretary Clifford today on the question of whether Hanoi is tightening internal security in North Vietnam.

The Director drew attention to the Sunday New York Times editorial entitled, "Needed: A Vietnam Strategy."



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[REDACTED]

Warner reminded that the NRO hearing continues today.

Warner advised that the Congressional Easter recess will be from 11 to 17 April.

Bross reported that General Maxwell Taylor is being briefed on Iran today and will be briefed on Czechoslovakia and Poland tomorrow.

DD/P advised that Jack Anderson's Washington Post articles on Friday and Saturday contain direct quotations from the minutes of the IRG meeting of 11 January 1968.

Executive Director noted that Thursday's SIG meeting will deal with the final recommendations to the President on the first round of the overseas personnel reduction exercise. Executive Director will be attending the meeting today of the SIG Review Panel concerning the recommendations which SIG will be reviewing.

The Director noted that Ambassador Bohlen spoke to him briefly over the weekend about meeting with him concerning deployment of Agency personnel in Africa.

DDCI advised that the paper on overhead reconnaissance satellite requirements for NRO will not be ready for Thursday's USIB agenda, and D/ONE indicated that the memorandum on the Soviet space program can be inserted in its place.

The Director drew attention to a cable from [REDACTED] commending the work and comportment of the PFIAB post-mortem working group during its TDY to Vietnam.

The Director noted that, during his visit to the National Inter-departmental Seminar on Friday, he raised the matter of participation in the Seminar and learned that Seminar officials are aware that State has been the least responsive agency in terms of participation.

[REDACTED]

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ACTIONS:

*done 3/26/68* 1. The Director asked that an item reporting the negative read-out of the U-2 flight over South China be prepared [ ] (OCI)

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2. The Director requested that Ambassador Bohlen be placed on distribution for Intelligence Estimates and memoranda dealing with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

3. The Director asked Carver to report to the Executive Committee once a week on the status of negotiations on use of the M-14's.

4. The Director asked DD/P to determine whether the FE Division can in any way be responsive to Tom Johnson.

*JSW spoke to DCI - it was decided no letter would be sent.* 5. The Director asked Warner to prepare a letter to Senator Russell for the Director's signature appropriately noting that the Senator has now spent over half his life in the Senate.

6. The Director asked Bross to send Dr. Hornig the two Estimates which he has requested and to ensure that a covering letter makes it clear that the Estimates are being sent in response to his personal request. The Director asked that future requests for Estimates be raised in the Morning Meeting in order to determine their release on an ad hoc basis.

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L. K. White

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